

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences and the resulting Office Action mailed March 14, 2006, requiring Applicants to present one or more of the dependent claims in independent form. The decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences upheld the Examiner's rejection on Claims 1, 10, 12, 14, 15, and 16 and reversed the Examiner's rejection on Claims 6 and 9. Furthermore, on page 6 of the Examiner's Answer to Appeal Brief, the Examiner withdrew the rejection to Claims 2-5, 7, 8, 11, and 13. The Examiner objected to those claims as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but stated they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Based upon the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, Applicants have cancelled Claims 1, 10, 12, and 14-16. Applicants have amended Claims 2, 6, 9, and 13. No new matter has been added.

Applicants have now made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for examination and allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Adam L. Stroud,
Reg. No. 48,410
Attorney
(408) 474-9064
April 6, 2005